

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

VOL. 53—NO. 23

TWENTY PAGES TODAY

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., FRIDAY, JAN. 26, 1917

PAGES ONE TO TWELVE

PRICE TWO CENTS

BRITISH TOWN IS SHELLED

Unknown German Vessel Makes Appearance Off Suffolk Coast and Fires Large Number of Shells—No Casualties Reported and Damage is Slight.

German Forces Make Further Gains in Galicia and Drive Russians Back from Strong Positions, Taking Many Captives—French Open Offensive.

London, Jan. 26.—An unidentified German vessel shelled the Suffolk coast of England last night. There were no casualties.

The following official announcement was given out today: "A small unidentified German vessel approached the Suffolk coast last night and fired a number of shots, only a portion of which reached the land. There were no casualties and only insignificant damage."

RUSSIANS ARE ROUTED.

Berlin, Jan. 26, by wireless to Sayville.—In the river Aa section of the Riga region, along the northern end of the Russo-Galician front, East Prussian troops captured additional Russian positions on both sides of the stream yesterday and withstood a counter attack on the eastern bank. Russians to the number of 500 were taken prisoner.

Minor attacks have been made by Rumanian forces on the western frontier of Moldavia, in the Kasno valley region, the war office announced today. The attacks were repulsed.

French trenches on hill 304, northwest of Verdun, were stormed yesterday by German troops along a front of 1,600 meters, the war office announced.

Approximately 500 prisoners were taken by the Germans, who also captured 10 machine guns. The French failed in a counter attack at night.

GERMAN LOSSES HEAVY. Paris, Jan. 26.—On the Verdun front last night the Germans made attacks at four points between Acourt wood and Dead Man Hill. Today's war office announcement says the Germans were driven back with severe losses, although they penetrated advanced trenches near hill 304.

In upper Alsace the Germans left their trenches at two points to attack, but were checked by the French artillery.

Petrograd, Jan. 26.—Russian troops in two sections of the Riga region carried out successful offensive movements yesterday, advancing at one point east of the river Aa for about a mile, the war office announced today. Counter offensives by the Germans later resulted in withdrawals of the Russian forces which had advanced.

FORGER EMPLOYS BOY TO CASH HIS 'PHONEY' CHECKS

Police Warn Storekeepers and Others to Be On Their Guard

A clever forger who uses young boys to pass the worthless checks which he makes is being sought by the police. During the last few days he has victimized several Bridgeport storekeepers and merchants are warned by the police to be on their guard. In two instances reported to Capt. E. O. Cronan, he signed his name to the checks as George P. McGuire.

In each of these cases the checks were cashed by a small boy, who purchased some trivial article in the store, where the check was tendered. Clarence Holdsworth, of 242 East Main street, a baker, cashed a check for \$5 made payable at the bank against National bank and drawn against the account of Mrs. Leo O'Brien.

A check for \$5 was cashed in Wurtig Brothers' store, 355 East Main street, payable at the same bank and drawn against the account of Mrs. John P. Flynn. The names written on each check are fictitious.

New Trolley Company Seeks Incorporation

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—Senator Bartlett introduced a bill in the Senate today incorporating the Bridgeport & Lordship Trolley Co., and giving it the right to establish a belt line in Bridgeport along the plans recently described in The Farmer.

WRIGHTS, IN ILL HEALTH, GRANTED THEIR FREEDOM

Brothers Serving Jail Terms For Factory Thefts Are on Probation.

BOTH LEAVE CITY ON THEIR RELEASE

Joseph Wright, 'Seriously Sick, is Patient in Sanitarium Now.

Joseph G. and Nathaniel Wright, who were each serving a six months' sentence in the Fairfield county jail for the theft of \$10,000 of aluminum wire from the Union Metallic Cartridge Co., were yesterday released on probation in charge of the state attorney. The order for release was signed by Judge Burpee before whom the brothers were tried and who imposed the jail sentence. The release of the brothers was effected because it was represented to Judge Burpee that both are in ill health and that the father of Nathaniel Wright is really in need.

During their incarceration in the jail, Joseph Wright has been employed on a heat-making machine and Nathaniel has been employed at various tasks there. Both have developed serious organic trouble since they began their sentences. The men were released yesterday and taken away from the jail in an automobile. Joseph Wright, it is said, has been taken to a sanitarium. Nathaniel will go to a position that has been procured for him in another city. Both will be under surveillance from the state's attorney's office and will be required to report frequently.

The brothers were widely known in Bridgeport and respected before the crime for which they were sentenced. Joseph G. was a salesman of chemicals and active in Republican politics. Nathaniel was a clerk at the U. M. C. Co. and in charge of material. It was claimed that through his position in the factory he was able to divert a shipment of aluminum wire valued at \$10,000. Joseph was arrested while trying to dispose of the wire to a New Haven junk dealer. The wire was all recovered and it was believed that the brothers would escape with a fine. On Dec. 16 in the superior court before Judge Burpee, the brothers pleaded guilty and were sentenced to six months in jail and to pay costs of \$16.70 each.

SHOP A FIRETRAP, GETS LONG TERM IN STATE PRISON

Owner of Factory Where 13 Died In Fire Is Sent to Sing Sing

New York, Jan. 26.—Asserting that a sentence in prison should teach a fire-fighting lesson to factory owners and tenants who failed to provide proper fire exits, Supreme Court Justice Kapper today sent Samuel Barkin to Sing Sing for from two and one-half to five and one-half years. Barkin is partner in a shirt making company housed in a Brooklyn building, where nine women and four men, operatives, lost their lives in a fire last November because the trap door between their place of work and Barkin's floor was locked.

The conviction of Barkin by a jury earlier this week was said to be the first under a state statute which, aimed to safeguard factory employees in event of fire, holds tenants criminally liable when exits are kept locked.

Indicted with Barkin were his partner, Samuel Simon, and the building owners, Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Diamond, proprietors of a candy company in the structure. These three are yet to be tried.

Gustave Moll Will Fight Testament of Nonogenarian Mother

When the hearing on the admission to probate of the will of Theresa A. Moll comes up, her son, Gustave Moll, will contest. The will drawn in 1897 and offered for probate yesterday, divides an estate estimated at between \$50,000 and \$100,000 between Mrs. Lillie Thorp and Theresa Oberly, her daughters, cutting off her son Gustave without a cent.

Gustave claims that after the will was drawn his mother made a conveyance of her property placing it in trust with her daughters and to be divided equally among all her children after her death. This conveyance it is claimed will be offered to offset the will. Judge Miller has set no date for the hearing as yet. He will ask another judge to hear the case. Gustave Moll, who was the consular agent for his mother, with his family occupies the old Moll homestead at Arlington.

UNPAID, HE FIGHTS

Persons who owe John Levine, of 55 Elmwood street, a small sum of money and refuse to pay, rouse his fighting blood. Last night he proceeded to take out in punches a bill which he claimed Myer Berg, of South Main street owed him, when the pair met at War street. A policeman arrested him for assault and Judge Frank Wilder made Levine's method a rather unprofitable one by imposing a fine of \$15.

THIRTY HURT IN PANIC ON TROLLEY CAR

Flash From Controller Box On Electric Loaded With Munitions Workers Cause Passengers to Break Windows and Jump Into Street.

Fifteen Severely Cut and Bruised in Mad Rush Through Openings Smashed Through Glass Panes—Stratford Trolleys Near Collision.

Thrown into a state of panic and hysteria by an explosion, which enveloped in flames the interior of a trolley car at Berkshire avenue and East Main street, early this morning, about 70 employees of the Remington Arms Co., who were packed into the car, fought like maniacs to escape.

At 30 were hurt and 15 received injuries which necessitated their removal to the home of Dr. Daniel P. Griffin, 1350 East Main street, which was turned into a miniature hospital for their accommodation. They were suffering from lacerations, of the body and head, bruises, sprains and various other hurts, which though extremely painful will not, it is thought by the physician, result seriously.

After their wounds had been attended by Dr. Griffin, who was assisted by members of his household in the treating them, the following men were among those removed to their homes by the Connecticut Co.:

Alfred Buscile, 160 Franklin street, Stratford; Alexander Michalska, 31 Wylie street, Milford; Alfred Kline, Walnut beach; E. H. Benjamin, 36 Baldwin street, Fort Trumbull beach; F. Brewster, 10 Concord avenue, Milford; Edwin Coe, Stratford; John Shields, 240 Broadway, Milford; Alfred Winch, Devon; Charles Coakley, 290 East avenue, Bridgeport; Carwin Smith, Milford; F. Thompson, 1744 Barnum avenue, Bridgeport; George Conway, 859 East Broadway, Stratford; A. M. Christie, Milford; Janaro Barber, Milford.

The accident occurred shortly before 2 o'clock this morning. The car was a special night assignment which runs from the Remington Arms plant to Milford, and is used almost exclusively by the employees of the factory who work on one of the night shifts.

The trolley left the Remington Arms Co. at 1:30 and was jammed with workers, who filled every available space in the car. It was in charge of Motorman Frank Raddock, 126 East Main street, and Conductor Otto Sessimmon, 1223 Oak street.

When it reached East Main street and Berkshire avenue an explosion in the controller box resulted in sheets of flame, which spread from the motor-man's platform through the car, over the heads of the passengers to the rear platform. Smoke clouds, filled the trolley and the electric was enveloped in complete darkness.

The sound of splintering glass awakened the neighborhood as the panic-stricken passengers dove through the windows of the car. Pandemonium reigned, seats were overturned and men fought with maniacal fury to escape either through the windows or by means of the exits.

They tore each other's clothing, knocked each other down and were being trampled on as those who still maintained their balance, struggled to get through the car to the exit. Men dove through the windows, cutting their heads, hands and faces on the ragged glass and suffering from severe bruises when they struck in the brick paved street.

When residents and Policemen Jones of the second precinct station reached the scene the passengers were piled in heaps about the car, struggling to free themselves. Dr. Griffin, who lives nearby, was called to the scene and he ordered the injured men taken to his home. Running to his (Continued on Page 4)

RAIDER GUNS SEND DUCK-BILLED DINO TO BOTTOM OF SEA

Lawrence, Kan., Jan. 26.—Two skeletons of the duck-billed dinosaur were lost to science with the sinking recently by a German raider of the ship Mount Temple, according to Charles H. Sternberg of this city, who found the bones in the Red Deer country in Alberta, Canada.

The prehistoric specimens were 32 feet long and were sent to the British museum in London. Mr. Sternberg said. They filled 22 boxes and weighed 20,000 pounds. Mr. Sternberg received word today from Canadian railroad officials of the fate of the shipment.

DANIELS PLANS SHELL FACTORY IN SHORT TIME

Secretary of Navy Says Projectile Plant Will Be Underway Soon

MACHINERY BIDS WILL BE SOUGHT

Has Given Up Thoughts of Getting Satisfactory Contracts Here

Washington, Jan. 26.—Secretary Daniels today began preparing to meet the British government's refusals to permit Hadfields, limited, to make projectiles for the American navy, by making ready to equip a government plant to do the work. Ordnance experts were put to work on the plans.

"I expect work to begin on the plant in the spring," said Secretary Daniels, "and the machinery will be advertised for soon."

The navy department virtually has abandoned hope of getting satisfactory bids from American manufacturers.

PLUCKY YOUNG WOMAN ROUTS HER ASSAILANT

Attacked By Ruffian In Railroad Avenue, She Puts Him to Flight

A bold attempt to criminally assault Miss Annie Cavanaugh, 21 years, daughter of Charles Cavanaugh, who resides at 1027 Railroad avenue, was made by a man of foreign birth last night at 8:50 as the girl was walking along Railroad avenue at Wordin avenue.

Miss Cavanaugh's assailant was lurking in a doorway as she neared Wordin avenue. When opposite him he sprang from his place of concealment and struck her a terrific blow in a muscle of her right arm, with his fist, missing an attempt to paralyze her arms by the blows, preventing her from resisting him.

The girl, infuriated, fought like a tiger, biting and scratching the man's face and hands. Her hat was torn from her head in the course of the struggle and her clothing disarranged. After a five minute battle in which the pair fought all over the sidewalk and street the girl actually put her pursuer to rout.

On reaching her home she was in a state of hysteria and it was some time before she could relate the details of what happened. The police have no description of the man other than the fact that he was a foreigner, of short stature, who wore a grey overcoat.

PLAYING AROUND BONFIRE MAY BE FATAL TO CHILD

Girl Receives Severe Burns When Clothes Burst Into Flame.

Eluding the watchful eye of her mother, who had scolded her for wanting to go into the street, Elizabeth Simko, six years, of 780 Stillman street, while playing about a bonfire which was burning in the yard in the rear of her home, received burns on her legs which may result fatally.

The child's dress caught fire and her legs from the heels to her waist were severely burned. By James F. Cavanaugh dressed the injured girl and removed her to the Bridgeport hospital in the emergency hospital ambulance.

John Ryan's Body Sent to His Home

The body of John Ryan, the employee of the New Haven road whose identity became confused with a second John Ryan, also an employee of the New Haven road, and to whose relatives in New York it was sent because the mistake was discovered was taken yesterday afternoon to Jersey City, where several sisters survive him. The funeral and burial were this morning in Jersey City, his former home.

HARTFORD WOMAN FOR BOARD OF CHARITIES.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—Gov. Holcomb today named Mary A. Wise of Hartford to succeed Anna C. Walter of Middletown as a member of the state board of charities.

WOULD IMPRISON "GUN TOTERS"

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—Senator John M. O'Connell of Bridgeport, introduced a bill today fixing a minimum penalty of from one to three years in state's prison for carrying concealed weapons.

THREE MILLION A YEAR TO SPEED MILLENNIUM, IS JOHN T.'S PROGRAM

SEEK ABOLITION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER SYSTEM AND ESTABLISHING STATE DEPUTY

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—Senator Bartlett, by request, today introduced a bill in the Senate to abolish the office of county health officer and create a deputy state health officer for co-operation with the local health officers.

The bill is the result of a campaign in Fairfield county particularly, for a change in the method of conducting county health matters.

Senator Bartlett also introduced a bill by request, which was received from Stoddard, Marsh & Day, lawyers, acting for clients in Southport, Fairfield and vicinity. These clients had heard rumors that the recent activities of DuPont Powder Co. agents in real estate matters were forerunners of the establishment of a powder plant and they want the legislature to define what explosives are, and make regulations for storage and handling such explosives in all towns of less than 50,000 inhabitants.

By request of the Commission Government forces in Bridgeport, Senator Bartlett introduced a bill to amend the Home Rule bill so that 60 per cent of the voters would not be required to sanction a charter change, as at present, and so that a majority of the vote would legalize such a change.

CITY COURT BILL PROVIDES \$3,000 WAGE FOR JUDGE

Bartlett Introduced Measure for Rearranging Salary Schedule.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—The bill announced by the Republican administration in Bridgeport several weeks ago, for the purpose of reorganizing the city court, was introduced today in the Senate by Senator F. A. Bartlett, who is judge of the city court.

The measure would amend the charter of the city so that a general raise in salaries would be effected. The judge would get \$3,000, the deputy \$2,500 (the judge's salary now); two prosecutors would get \$2,500 each (the one prosecutor gets \$2,000 now), the clerk \$2,000, (\$1,600 now), and his assistant \$1,600. It would also allow the appointment of an investigator to act for the prosecutor and receive a salary of \$1,200.

FURTHER CHANGE IN CHARTER SEEN IN TODAY'S BILLS

Measure Are Presented In Skeleton Form for Legislative Consideration.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—Further proposed changes in the charter of the city of Bridgeport are forecast by bills presented today in skeleton form. One has to do with the duties of tax commissioner and board of relief; one as to the office of tax collector, and a third as to milk regulation by the common council.

Other measures of Bridgeport interest include:

By Senator O'Connell, a bill exempting from taxation property of the Knights of Columbus in Bridgeport.

By Senator O'Connell, a bill providing semi-monthly salary payments to state employees.

By Senator Meade, a bill extending for one year the charter rights of the Danbury-Bethel Street Railway Co.

By Senator Klett, a bill providing a penalty of \$1,000 fine and 10 years' imprisonment for the operation of a trolley car by an intoxicated person. This bill is aimed to guard against accidents similar to the one that occurred recently at East Main street and Stratford avenue, Bridgeport.

By Senator Meade, a bill appropriating \$300,000 for the erection of a grain elevator on the state pier in New London.

SEWER COMMISSION IN STRATFORD PROPOSED

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—Representative Ivan Morehouse of Stratford presented a bill in the House today to permit the town of Stratford to issue \$300,000 in bonds to pay for a sewerage, for the benefit of residents of Hollister Heights and other outlying districts. Another would establish a finance board for Stratford. Another would give the selectmen of Stratford power to appoint a sewer commission of three to fix the pay.

INFECTION CAUSED DEATH

The death of Edward Hillman of Stephy which occurred at St. Vincent's hospital, Monday, Jan. 22 from injuries received by being knocked down and run over by a Long Hill trolley car at Main and Chapel streets was caused by an infection of a fractured thigh, according to a finding given by Medical Examiner Garlick today.

POSTPONE CARR HEARING

The hearing on the remonstrance against Thomas J. Carr's liquor license renewal, which was scheduled for today at 11 a. m., was postponed at the request of counsel on both sides. No date was assigned for the next hearing. Members of Trinity Episcopal church filed the remonstrance against Carr on the ground that the location, which adjoins the church, is unsuitable for a cabaret.

THE WEATHER

Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday.

Fairfield County Leader Makes His Debut As a "Progressive," Sponsoring Omnibus Bill for Agricultural and Public Welfare Board.

Would Have Commission of Twelve, Serving at a Cost of \$49,000 a Year and With Millions to Spend, Look After All Humanitarian Laws.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, Jan. 26.—At an annual cost to the state of over three millions of dollars, John T. King, of Bridgeport, hopes to hasten the millennium.

Signalling John T.'s debut as a "progressive," there was introduced in the Senate today a blanket bill providing for the establishment of an agricultural and public welfare commission. The bill, for which John T. stands sponsor, as yet is in skeleton form. When it's completed, it will cover 48 pages and will go right through Col. Roosevelt's policies from "soups to nuts."

All the new legislation proposed by the bill is to be under the direction of a board of twelve, who will serve at a salary of \$4,000, with \$5,000 for the chairman. Agricultural experiments and developments; farm loans; health insurance; mothers' pensions; minimum wage for men and women; state pasteurization plants; legalization of pooling of farm products, and possibly some more things will be incorporated in the bill.

In its skeleton form, the measure was introduced in the Senate today by Senator F. A. Bartlett. Its scope was outlined last night to its Fairfield county sponsors by Attorney Spotswood B. Bowers, who is drafting the bill.

The bill creates an Agricultural and Industrial Board and defines its powers and makes appropriations to carry the provisions into effect. The commission is known as the Agricultural and Public Welfare Commission. There are 12 members to be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate during this session of the General Assembly. Three of the members are to be from the State grange, three from the manufacturers of the state residing in this state and three from the employees of manufacturing plants of this state residing in this state. The salary is \$4,000. The chairman is to be selected by the members of the commission and is to receive \$5,000 annually. The term is for four years.

The bill provides for experiments under direction of the commission and dissemination of information thus gained and otherwise secured, to assist farmers and live stock growers; to establish nurseries for the cultivation of fruit trees and the distribution of the same on the terms and conditions made by the commission; to investigate the dairy conditions of the state and to discover and demonstrate improved methods of producing and marketing milk and other dairy products at wholesale.

The reforestation is provided by the establishment of nurseries for the propagation of trees for the purpose of reforesting land, for the protection and preservation of the water supply and the distribution of such trees. It provides for loans to farmers to assist in the purchase of seeds and fertilizer in case of total or partial failure crops of the preceding year. A state bank for making rural loans is provided the commission are the directors, the details of management being under the direction of the state bank.

In towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants, it is provided that a sum equal to the amount set aside by the town shall be paid the town for the improvement of the byroads of the town. A free employment bureau is provided in connection with the office of the state department of labor. The commission has power and license and supervise co-operative societies among farmers and live stock growers for the purpose of building abattoirs, grain elevators, pasteurization plants, etc., and of maintaining prices and makes it legal for persons to combine, unite, or prove any or all of the crops of tobacco and general farm products. The establishment of (Continued on Page 4)

(Continued on Page 4)